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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants: KATO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/765,379

JUN 1 - 2001

Filed: January 22, 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR

H. Kwon  
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amlt B  
7/26/2001SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 29, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, and supplementing the Preliminary Amendment filed January 22, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel <sup>✓</sup>claims <sup>✓</sup>1-<sup>✓</sup>11 without prejudice or disclaimer, and add the following new <sup>✓</sup>claims <sup>✓</sup>to the application:

~~12.~~ 12. A conveyor system for use in a vacuum processing apparatus, comprising:

a loader provided with a conveying device for conveying substrates;

a vacuum loader provided with a convey chamber, plural vacuum processing chambers and a conveying structure installed in said convey chamber, for conveying substrates to be processed; and

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